Abstract

Forms of differentially acting glycoprotein hormones are disclosed. These compositions are of the formula

β^1-(linker^1)$_m$-α-(linker^2)$_n$-β^2 (1);

β^1-(linker^1)$_m$-β^2-(linker^2)$_n$-α (2);

α-(linker^1)$_m$- β^1-(linker^2)$_n$-β^2 (3);

$\beta^2 \approx \alpha$-(linker)$_m$-β^1 (4); or

β^1-(linker)$_m$-$\alpha \approx \beta^2$ (5)

wherein each of β^1 and β^2 has the amino acid sequence of the β subunit of a vertebrate glycoprotein hormone or a variant of said amino acid sequence, as variants are defined herein. "α" designates the α subunit of a vertebrate glycoprotein hormone or a variant thereof; "linker" refers to a covalently linked moiety that spaces the β^1 and β^2 subunits at appropriate distances from the α subunit and from each other. "$\approx$" is a noncovalent link. Each of m and n is independently 0 or 1.

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